



## **ieLab and Wyss Zurich - Key building blocks of entrepreneurship support at ETH**

grow-Apéro, June 7, 2017

# ETH Zurich at a glance



## Founded in 1855

- Driving force of industrialisation in Switzerland

## ETH Zurich today

- ~ 19,800 students
- ~ 500 professors
- ~ 10,000 employees (incl. Ph.D. students)
- ~ 25,000 people from 100 different countries
- CHF 1.8b annual budget

**Global University Ranking:** Times Higher Education – **No. 1** in continental Europe, and **No. 9** in the world (2016)

# Mission of ETH

One of the key tasks of ETH:  
**technology transfer:  
to exploit research  
findings**

## Swiss Federal Law on the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology (Bundesgesetz über die Eidgenössischen Technischen Hochschulen)

### ETH Law

of 4 October 1991 (Status as of 1 August 2008)

*The Federal Assembly of the Swiss Confederation,*  
with due regard to Articles 27 and 27<sup>\*\*\*</sup> of the Federal Constitution <sup>1 2</sup> and the Message of the Swiss Federal Council of 14 December 1987<sup>3</sup>,

*resolves:*

### Chapter I: General provisions

#### Art. 1 Scope

<sup>1</sup>This law shall apply to the Domain of the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology (ETH Domain) comprising the following:

- a. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ);
- b. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (ETHL);
- c. <sup>4</sup>Research Institutes

<sup>2</sup>These institutions come under the Confederation.

#### Art. 2 Purpose

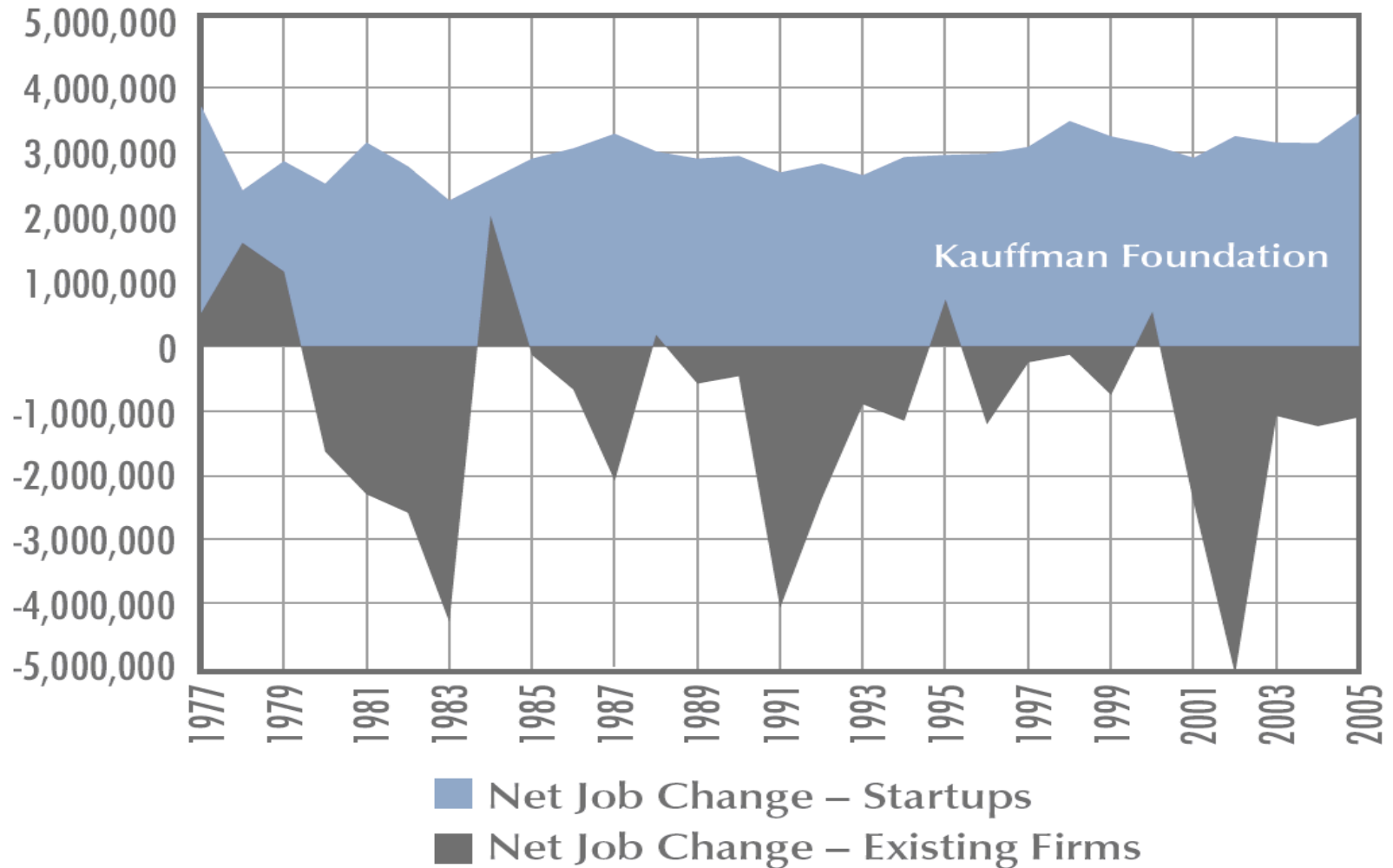
<sup>1</sup>The role of the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology (ETHs) and the Research Institutes shall be:

- a. to educate students and specialists in scientific and technical fields and ensure continuing education;
- b. to expand scientific knowledge through research;
- c. to foster junior scientific staff;
- d. to provide scientific and technical services;
- e. <sup>5</sup>to ensure a dialogue with the public;
- f. <sup>6</sup>to exploit their research findings.

# More innovation and entrepreneurship at ETH !



# The importance of startups for job creation (USA)



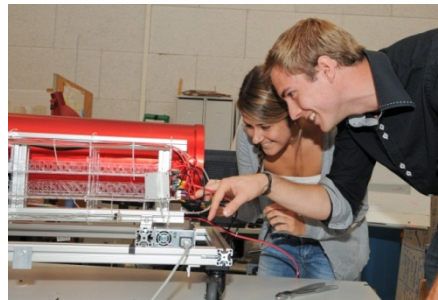
# Entrepreneurship: Integral part of ETH culture !

Focus Projects,  
TLabs, SPH,...

Pioneer  
Fellowships

Budding  
Entrepreneurs

Company  
Builders



Institutes/SPH/  
Departments

ieLab

Wyss/Technopark/  
Innovation Park

The World

ETH Entrepreneur  
Club (3000)

ETH Juniors  
(8000)

# What ETH entrepreneurs would have wanted ...

- Peer home** A second home ("a biotope") for like-minded young ETH scientists with entrepreneurial aspirations: Peer support and peer pressure !
- Coaching** Supervision and support by experienced, successful entrepreneurs with a similar background: Compelling role models
- Networking** Low-threshold access to all ETH resources, in particular ETH transfer, and to the complete network of the entire ETH



ETH's answer: The innovation & entrepreneurship **Lab**

# ieLab in a nutshell

- Collaborative **open spaces** ("biotopes") for close interactions between young entrepreneurs: Peer support and peer pressure!
- **Individual** counseling by highly experienced coaches, who are all successful serial entrepreneurs themselves
- Effective access to the enormous **network** of ETH and the various ETH services through the "embedded" ieLab team: Innovation Sherpas
- Complementary training, individual support (Pioneer Fellowships) and **events** (ieLab weekly lunch seminar, Entrepreneur Club...)





# ieLab: Engineering/ICT and Life Sciences



# Integral opportunity: ETH Pioneer Fellowship

- Seed money: CHF 150'000 over 18 months
- Workplace in one of the ieLabs (offices, labs, workshop,...)
- ICT infrastructure and communication tools
- Coffee corner (that's where it happens!)
- Coaching by successful serial entrepreneurs
- Access to all services of ETH transfer
- Use of the ETH network for finding alliance partners
- Use of the ETH Foundation network for finding investors
- Support by the host professor
- Networking events (meet the pioneers, startup-dinner,...)

# The ieLab Entrepreneurship training program

## ieLab Seminars



## Round Tables



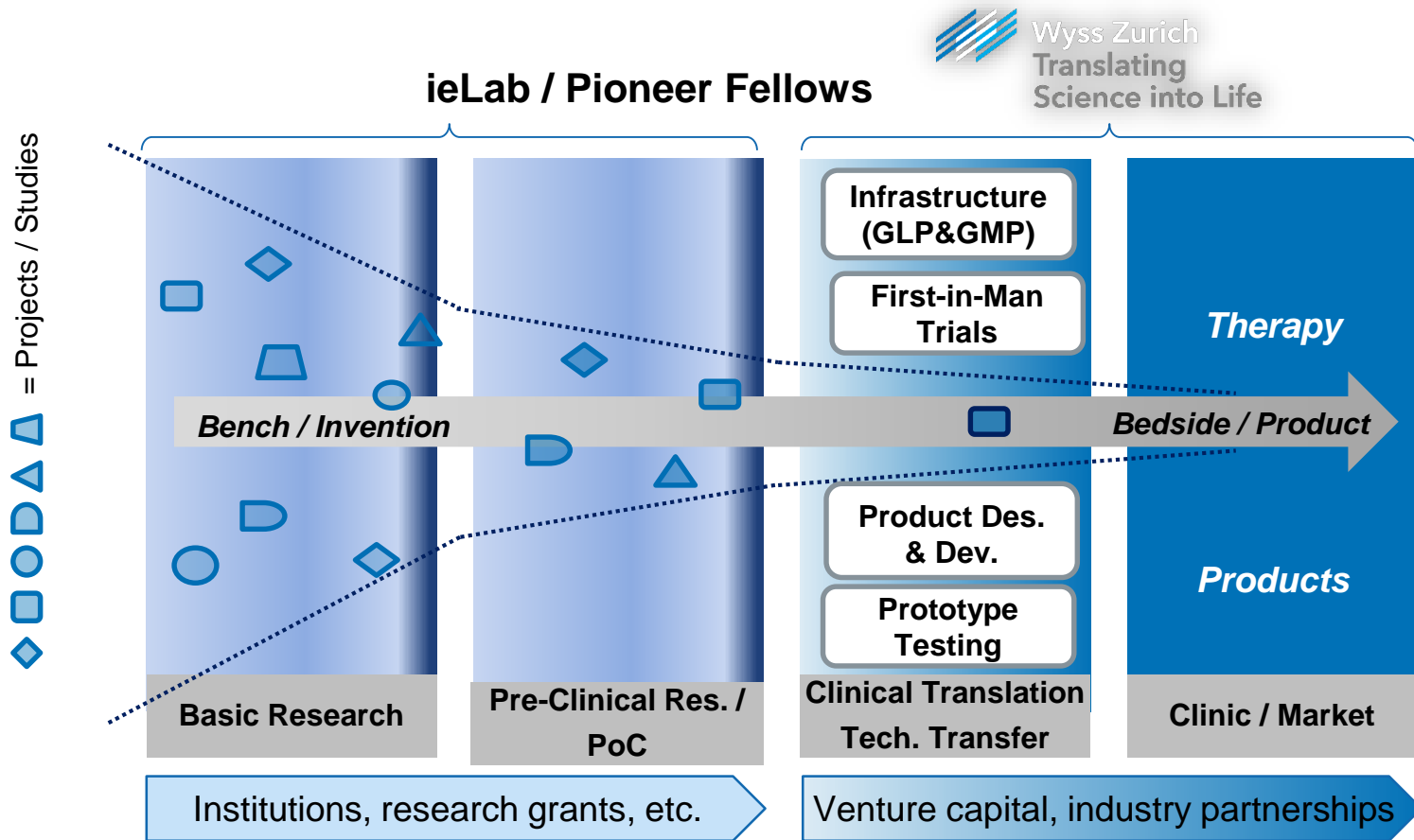
## Canvas Trainings



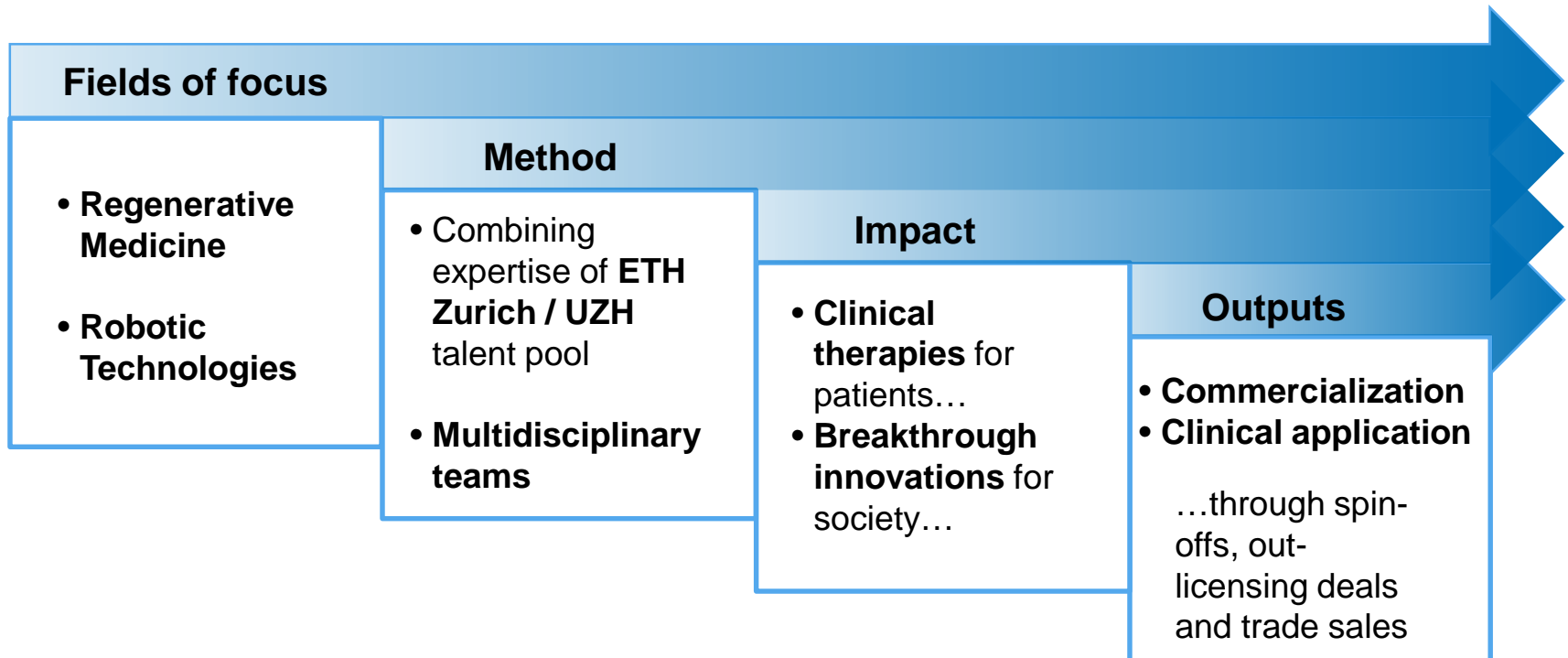
## Immersion Experience



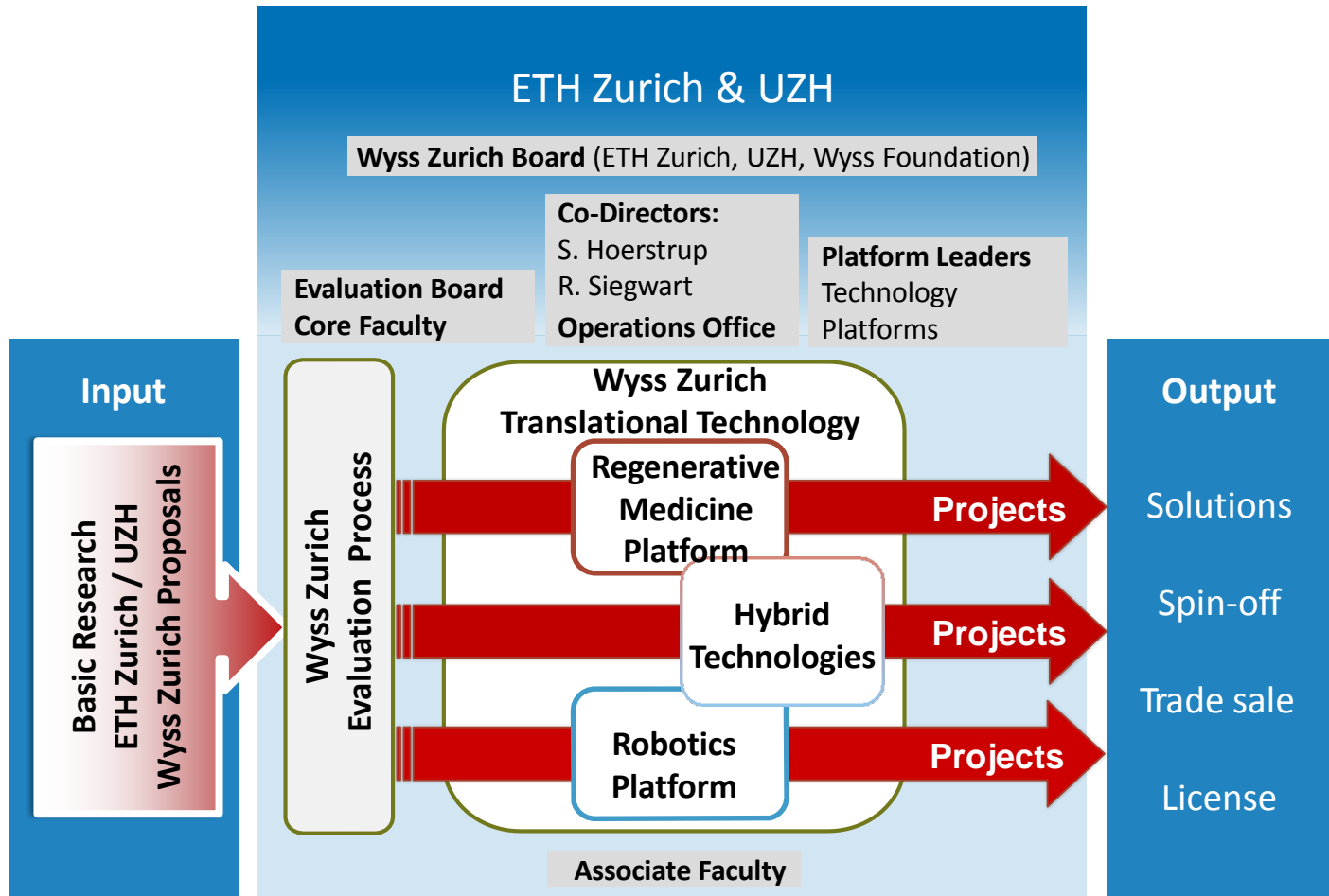
# Wyss Zurich | Bridging the “valley of death”



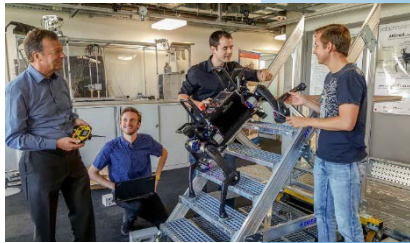
# Focus | Accelerating translational research



# Organization | Combining the best of both worlds



# A unique model | Building blocks of Wyss Zurich



Funding for  
**personnel  
expenses &  
translational R&D**

Access to  
**technology  
platforms &  
infrastructure**



Wyss Zurich  
Translating  
Science into Life



Funding for  
early-phase  
**clinical trials**

**Coaching &  
mentoring** by  
subject-matter  
experts



# Technology Platforms | Scope of activities

## Regenerative Medicine Platform

*“from bench to bedside”*

- Translation of medical innovations in **first-in-man studies**.
- Manufacturing clinical grade products (**GMP**).
- Enrolment of clinical studies and technologies according to **GCP** in collaboration with Swissmedic and the related international authorities (e.g. EMA, FDA).
- Fully certified, state-of-the-art **technical and scientific platform** with **ISO 13485** Quality Management System in place for Medical Devices.



- Covers expertise in **cell-based** therapies, **tissue engineering**, **organoid** technologies.

## Robotics Platform

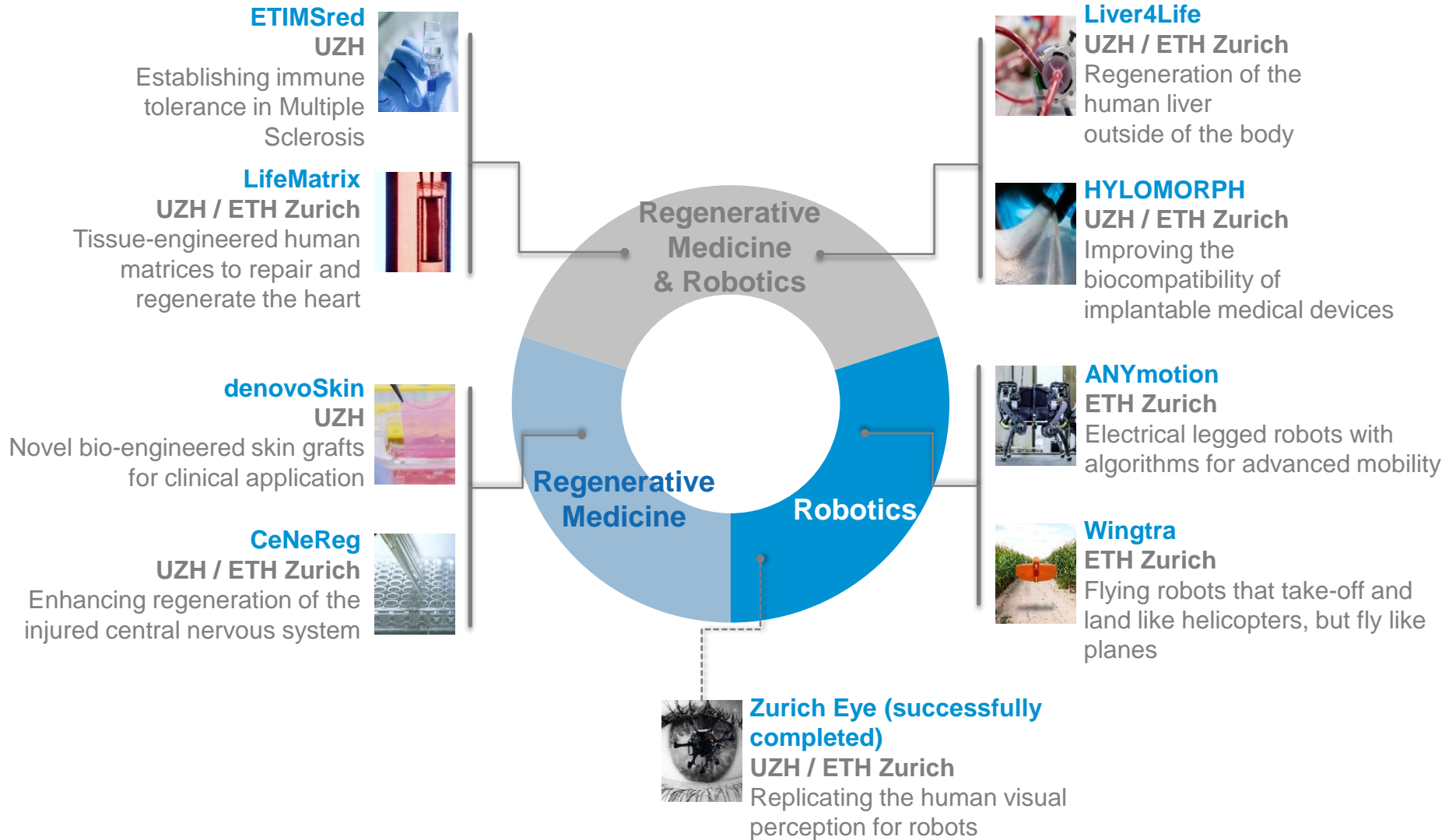
*“from invention to commercial product”*

- Successful conversion of promising scientific results into **products**.
- Technology and engineering team, who supports the Wyss Zurich Projects in their **transfer to the market**.
- **Specialists** covering core **competences**:
  - Systems and industrial design,
  - Mechatronic and software development,
  - Product and business development.
- Will comprise an **advanced prototyping facility** for mechatronic systems.





# Wyss Zurich Projects | A good balance



# ETH – Living a Culture of Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Thank you!

ieLab:

[www.ethz.ch/ielab](http://www.ethz.ch/ielab)

ieLab Video:

[www.youtube.com/user/ethzurich](http://www.youtube.com/user/ethzurich)

Wyss Zurich:

[www.wysszurich.uzh.ch](http://www.wysszurich.uzh.ch)

ETH transfer:

[www.transfer.ethz.ch](http://www.transfer.ethz.ch)

ETH Pioneer Fellowships:

[www.vpf.ethz.ch/services/pioneergrants](http://www.vpf.ethz.ch/services/pioneergrants)